

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FAA-00 DOTE-00 CCO-00
CIAE-00 OTPE-00 FCC-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 OC-06
ICA-20 COME-00 BIB-01 CG-00 L-03 DOE-15 ACDA-12
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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2581

UNCLAS ROME 8346

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL,WARC,ITU

SUBJ: PREPARATION FOR 1979 WARC-SUGGESTED BRIEFING

REF: STATE 93779

1. FOLLOWING IS SENT FROM SHRUM (EB/TD) OF VISITING WARC TEAM FOR ATTENTION OF DEPARTMENT 'S OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS POLICY.

2. IT HAS JUST BEEN BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE MID-EAST WARC TEAM (ON MAY 5) THAT THE DEPARTMENT IS HOLDING ITS ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY COUNSELORS AND ATTACHES IN WASHINGTON DURING THE PERIOD MAY 8-19. A DRAFT AGENDA DATED APRIL 11 WAS CIRCULATED TO SCIATTS. ATTENDANCE IS EXPECTED TO INCLUDE APPROXIMATELY 28 OFFICERS FROM 26 POSTS. CONFERENCE COORDINATOR IS CLYDE MCCLELLAND, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL S/T AFFAIRS, OES. (FYI: MCCLELLAND AND HIS ASSISTANT GEORGE BARBER WERE BRIEFED BY SHRUM ON WARC ISSUES APPROXIMATELY TWO MONTHS AGO.)

3. IN VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE 1979 WARC AND OUR PLANNED EFFORTS TO INCREASE INVOLVEMENT OF KEY POSTS AROUND THE WORLD,
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IT SEEMS VERY DESIRABLE TO TRY TO ARRANGE FOR BRIEFING OF S/T OFFICERS DURING THEIR VISIT TO WASHINGTON. THE PURPOSE OF THE BRIEFING IS TO ALERT THEM TO THE OVERALL IMPORTANCE OF WARC AND ITS POTENTIAL IMPACT ON OPERATIONS, ECONOMICS AND TECHNOLOGY OF EXISTING AND FUTURE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS POLITICAL AND OTHER RELATED ISSUES IN THE COMMUNICATIONS AREA,E.G. OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE AND UNESCO, WOULD BE MENTIONED. ADDITIONAL BACK-

GROUND MATERIAL, STATUS REPORTS AND SPECIFIC REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE WILL BE PROVIDED BY EB/TD FROM TIME TO TIME UNTIL THE WARC, AS WELL AS BY VISITING WARC TEAMS WHERE APPROPRIATE. S/T OFFICERS ARE IDEALLY QUALIFIED TO HANDLE THE TECNICAL NATURE OF WARC ISSUES AND MANY OF THEM MAY HAVE ALREADY ESTABLISHED LIAISON WITH RELEVANT AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS OF THE FOREIGN COUNTRY CONCERNED. AS WE GET CLOSER TO THE 1979 CONFERENCE THEIR CONTACT WITH SENIOR LEVEL OFFICIALS IN THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL FIELDS SHOULD RPOVE PARTICULARLY USEFUL IN COORDINATING OUR PROPOSALS INTERNATIONALLY.

4. THE FORMAL SCIATT CONFERENCE RUNS FROM WEDNESDAY. , MAY 10 THROUGH TUESDAY, MAY 16. IF A BRIEFING IS POSSIBLE, IT WOULD PROBABLY BE NECESSARY TO GIVE IT DURING THAT PERIOD. FROM OUR SIDE IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO WAIT UNTIL SHRUM, PROBST. ETC. RETURN TO WASHINGTON FROM CEPT MEETING IN ROME. THEREFORE PREFERRED DAYS WOULD BE MAY 15 OR 16. IN VIEW OF ALREADY HEAVY SCHEDULE IT APPEARS THAT A ONE-HOUR BRIEFING WOULD BE THE MAXIMUM WHICH SHOULD BE REQUESTED. BRIEFING MIGHT CONSIST OF OPENING REMARKS BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BILLER, A 40-MINUTE PRESENTATON WITH SLIDES BY PROBST, CUTTS AND SHRUM, AND A 15-MINUTE Q/A SESSION.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: IT IS SUGGESTED THAT EB/TD CONTACT MCCLELLAND ASAP AND TRY TO ARRANGE FOR ONE-HOUR SESSION ON MAY 15 OR 16 (OR WHATER TIME IS AVAILABLE) TO DISCUSS 1979 WARC.
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IF PROPOSED BRIEFING IS ACCEPTED, EB/TD IS REQUESTED TO ADVISE SHRUM IN ROME WHO WILL COORDINATE PRESENTATION WITH APPROPRIATE MEMBERS OF WARC TEAM.GARDNER

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